

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 TRSE-00 /095 W
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R 021039Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5438
INFO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01998

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PDEV, EAID, MZ, GW
SUBJECT: FRG-MOZAMBIQUE TALKS ON AID SUSPENDED

REF: 77 MAPUTO 1342

1. A WORKING-LEVEL FRG DELEGATION (HEADED BY BOELL FROM THE MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION) VISITED MAPUTO FROM JANUARY 25-29 TO FIRM UP THE DM 20 MILLION BILATERAL AID OFFER EXTENDED DURING THE NOVEMBER VISIT OF FOREIGN OFFICE PLANNING CHIEF KINKEL (REFTEL).

2. THE FRG DELEGATION WAS WELL RECEIVED IN MAPUTO. ONLY A FEW HOURS WERE SPENT IN FORMAL SESSIONS; MOST OF THE TIME WAS DEVOTED TO INFORMAL TALKS ON MOZAMBIQUE'S NEEDS AND WAYS IN WHICH THE FRG COULD
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HELP.

ACCORDING TO OUR CONTACTS IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE, THE FRG TEAM WAS FULLY PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE AND INITIAL AN AID AGREEMENT ON THE SPOT. HOWEVER, PROGRESS WAS BLOCKED BY MOZAMBIQUE'S REFUSAL TO INCORPORATE THE STANDARD "BERLIN CLAUSE" INTO THE AGREEMENT.

3. THE MOZAMBIQUE SIDE, IN THE VIEW OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE, HAD BEEN WELL BRIEFED BY THE GDR EMBASSY PRIOR TO THE TALKS AND REFUSED TO ACCEPT ARGUMENTS THAT THE FRG WAS EMPOWERED UNDER THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT TO REPRESENT BERLIN IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MATTERS. AFTER THE FRG SIDE FINALLY CONVINCED THE MOZAMBICANS THAT ITS REFUSAL TO CONSIDER ANY AGREEMENT WITHOUT A SATISFACTORY BERLIN CLAUSE WAS A MATTER OF FIRM PRINCIPLE, THE MOZAMBIKAN SIDE ASKED THAT THE FORMAL TALKS BE SUSPENDED UNTIL AN UNSPECIFIED LATER DATE.

4. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO OUR CONTACT, THE MOZAMBICANS SEEMED TO EXPECT THAT THE FRG WOULD BE FLEXIBLE ON THE BERLIN CLAUSE AND WERE QUITE SURPRISED THAT THE FRG REFUSED TO YIELD. THE ISSUE WAS FULLY EXPLORED AND THE MOZAMBICANS UNDERSTAND THAT THE FRG WILL NOT MAKE AN EXCEPTION ON THIS AID AGREEMENT. THE FRG DELEGATION SUGGESTED THAT MOZAMBIQUE CHECK WITH ITS AFRICAN NEIGHBORS ON THEIR AGREEMENTS WITH THE FRG AND THAT, IF THEY DESIRED, THE FRG WAS WILLING TO CONTINUE THE TALKS AT ANY TIME.
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